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Education for Great Living in the 4-H Way

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Dr. Smith, author of this article, retired as Chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work 8 years ago. Well-known and beloved by extension workers everywhere, he has been active in the development of the Extension Service from the very beginning. He has had time in the last few years to stand back and survey the work with a little perspective. This paper was first given to State 4-H Club leaders attending the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington D. C., in June.

The purpose of 4-H Club work is in its essence, as I take it, the education of rural youth for Great Living. We want rural youth to know their job of farming and home-making and to know these things at their best. Satisfaction comes to a man or woman when he or she has superior knowledge, and superior knowledge comes from experience and contact with things and operations. Hence, we give 4-H youth experience in growing corn, growing gardens, feeding poultry, making clothes, organizing clubs, conducting meetings, making exhibits, putting on fairs, and like matters. We do not do these things in 4-H Club work the ordinary way, but in the best way, and as gleaned from both science and the experiences of the best farmers and homemakers. The only way people grow and attain to Great Living is to do things in the best way. There is no Great Living unless men and women are proud of their occupation, and they are proud of their occupation only when they are superior workers. The first step on the way to Great Living then is superior workmanship.

There are thousands of rural youth that can be helped to Great Living by being taught the art of seeing and

listening to the things of nature all around them. Things thus learned constitute unforgettable knowledge. You are educating yourself when you give attention to these things. Youth should know this and learn that all education does not lie in books, but much of it comes from their own observation and experience, and in the acquiring of this knowledge comes Great Living.

My hope is that 4-H Club extension forces may make the purposeful club camp and nature trail an ever-increasing part of the future 4-H Club program; and add to that the awakening of each soul to the beauties of the honeysuckle hedgerows of Maryland, of fields of yellow corn in Iowa, of wheatfields in the Dakotas and Kansas, of cottonfields in Alabama, of the white birches of Maine and Minnesota, of pine forests and open plains. The youth, man, or woman, who sees beauty in these things has something satisfying in his soul.

The second step, therefore, in Great Living is to know and appreciate the things of nature around you in which you are daily immersed. Great Living comes from understanding association with nature and can be had even when you are alone.

The third essential in Great Living

and the concern of 4-H Club work is to season the daily work of the farm and home with recreation—song, music, story, pageantry, social life, discussion, and debate. These things exhilarate both mind and body and are essential to Great Living.

We are of the view that the Extension Service, which doesn't make recreation a part of all its extension program and teach and train local community leaders in these fields in large numbers, is not quite meeting the needs of its people or the needs of the Nation. When people play and sing together they are more readily minded to cooperate and work together. And this is an era when we must learn to cooperate and work together or possibly disappear from the earth. We are on the road to Great Living when we play and sing and have social communion with each other.

I see also in the future program ahead great homes. The whole Nation is asking for more homes in which there is Great Living. If we are going to have better homes, training for them needs to be given men and women in their youth. One of the purposes of Cooperative Agricultural Extension, as I see it, is to give rural youth the concepts and ideals that go into the making of great homes.

Extension should prepare itself to give increasing help in home building, not only in the fashioning of a house and its furnishings and embellishment of its surroundings but also in the things that constitute the heart of the home—love, kindness, hospitality, justice, ideals, culture, work, responsibility, the brotherhood of man.

Efficiency, nature study, recreation, home building; and the greatest of these is home building. May 4-H Club work ever have a passion for building understanding, cultured homes.

Looking ahead

CLARIBEL NYE, State Home Demonstration Leader, California

■ Home demonstration work will always have as a first responsibility to make available to rural families quickly results of research of practical help in day-by-day family life.

Universities, experiment stations, colleges, and laboratories of commercial firms are rapidly increasing and extending the areas of knowledge. Many of their findings can contribute to health, economy, and "good life of the family in the country." Today's knowledge is not enough for tomorrow's family. The farm family represents consumer as well as producer. It wants current information on which to base its own decisions. The continuing flow of practical, authentic, up-to-the-minute information from laboratory to family, always a first responsibility of home demonstration specialists and agents, will be an even more complex and difficult task than in the past.

A Building Boom Is Before Us

In subject-matter fields, we all see very clearly where home demonstration work can be most helpful. Before us is a building boom. Building and remodeling houses and the selection of new furniture and furnishings are subjects of conversation in many thousands of California homes today. Will they be planned for California living today and tomorrow? Will the best available information be theirs through the home demonstration program? This may be called the "year of planning"; perhaps next year can be the year of building.

What of information available on work simplification, working heights, and equipment for the maidless home? There are those who believe that the homemaker in tomorrow's world can look forward to little outside help. The pooled experience of homemakers, combined with the ingenuity of designers and manufacturers, can do much to make household tasks less arduous and time-consuming. These are problems for home demonstration programs ahead.

What of the great concern over the

increase in the lawlessness of youth, the many unhappy, unstable homes? There is a body of subject matter, helpful in the guidance and development of children in the home; there is an increasing amount of factual material available to those who are students of happy family life. Perhaps this is a field of paramount interest to farm families, in which the home demonstration program can make its contribution.

Perhaps the most thought-provoking question in looking ahead is how can home demonstration work be made available to thousands of newcomers to California, to those young veteran families, and to racial groups whose standards of living and family customs will influence the California home life of tomorrow.

It will take the best combined intelligence, judgment, good will, the most conscientious help of thousands of volunteer leaders, and a devotion that goes beyond salary and minimum hours of work to make the home demonstration program of greatest helpfulness to the largest possible number of California families.

There Is a Common Bond

Always of equal importance as a source of helpfulness is the spread of information of sound practices and customs developed by the people themselves. In simple words, the job continues to be to get "practical, reliable information to families where they are, in a form in which they can use it, at a time when they need it."

Some people think that home demonstration work is for the privileged few. Others have the idea that it is a kind of uplift movement to help underprivileged farm families. Interest in home demonstration work has no relation to income, age, or size of family, or to previous education. Among all cooperators there is only one common bond—a love of home and family, a desire continuously to have and to use new knowledge and new skills for the health, happiness, and security of the family and for their satisfaction in their home.

We recognize the capacity and desire of human beings to progress, to learn, to improve, to grow, throughout life. Home demonstration work assumes these characteristics. It is based on a relatively new field of education—home economics—and this means to use food and human nutrition, clothing and textiles, housing and home furnishings, home management and family economics, child development and family life. It means chiefly the education of women and girls. It is a home-centered education.

The financial investment of Federal, State, and county governments in this "on the job" educational program has brought recognition to the work of women in the management of the home and in the conservation of life. It has been recognized that character and citizenship are developed in the home. It is here that democratic living can first be learned. By the way, democracy in family life in the 1840's was quite different, according to a poet of those days who wrote: "The father gives his kind command The mother hears, approves; The children all attentive stand, Then each, obedient, moves."

In 1834, when Oberlin College opened its doors to both men and women, it announced as one of its purposes "the elevation of female character, by bringing within the reach of the misguided and neglected sex all the instructive privileges which hitherto have unreasonably distinguished the leading sex from theirs." Only a little more than 100 years later, in May 1946, three and a half million women cooperated with their universities in a lifelong program of education. We did indeed celebrate "progress in the application of science and art to homemaking."

■ ISADORA WILLIAMS, Tennessee assistant extension marketing specialist, has been working during the fall and winter with officials at Oak Ridge and with county agents of the vicinity to keep a good supply of produce on the Oak Ridge Farmers' Retail Market throughout the winter. In an 18-week period, 110 different people sold 943 times at the market, with a total income of \$40,009.43.

This is house-planning year

■ The housing program of the Extension Service in West Virginia originated last fall at a State meeting of farm women leaders. The housing situation in various communities was discussed, and great interest was shown by these women in bringing their houses up to date. The leaders stated that farm people were keenly aware of the need for remodeling, installation of water systems and bathrooms, getting electric service, having improved kitchens, and better storage space.

At the annual conference of extension workers held later in the fall, the home demonstration agents asked for training in housing so as to be able to give the kind of information and help farm families are asking for.

Shortly after this conference the director of extension appointed a committee on housing, which included the specialists in agricultural-engineering, home-management, rural organization, and forestry; the extension economist; and the State county agent leader. The State leader in home demonstration work serves as chairman of the committee. This committee decided that the first step toward a better State housing program was to hold training schools for county extension workers, giving them the best information available on current housing problems. As housing is a family and community problem, the county as well as the home demonstration agents were invited to attend.

This State housing committee obtained the assistance of West Virginia extension workers and of Miss Mary Rokahr and Mr. A. T. Holman of the Extension Service in Washington who were called upon to give counsel and advice on the housing program and the training schools in particular. They came to the State and spent 2 days with the housing committee and other members of the extension staff discussing the West Virginia situation and possible approaches to the solution of problems. Previous to their coming, letters were sent to all county workers with a questionnaire to be filled in giving the major housing problems in the county and the types of help needed by the agents.

Three regional 3-day housing schools for county workers were held. In attendance were 23 home demonstration agents, 22 county agents and a few assistant agents, 4-H Club agents, and Negro workers. One session of each school was devoted to giving background information on the housing situation in the State and in the counties represented in that particular area. The general economic situation was discussed and possible sources of credit in case farmers found it necessary to borrow for housing improvements. Another session was devoted entirely to the planning of new or remodeled homes. The principles of planning were first discussed. The remainder of this session was a workshop in which the agents used architectural templates or "cut-outs" as a method of easy house planning.

A session was devoted to building materials, major emphasis being given to native materials and the use of family labor. West Virginia is rich in woods suitable for building material and for making furniture. It also has much native stone that can be used for house construction.

At another session the agricultural

engineer discussed a step-by-step plan for installing a water system, beginning with a kitchen sink for those who could afford only that much the first year. Later as materials, funds, and labor are available, families may add a hand-force pump, hot-water tank, power pump, septic tank, and bathroom.

Considerable attention was given to the landscaping of grounds and the use of native materials for this purpose.

The last session was devoted to a discussion of methods for getting the 1946 housing job done. A panel composed of county workers, specialists, and supervisors led this discussion.

In all these schools it was emphasized that this is a year of planning for the remodeling of homes and for the building of new homes. It is the Extension Service's job to give farm families the information they need in building and remodeling houses that will be in keeping with their income and suited to their own particular needs over a long period of time.

The results of the schools are encouraging, as several county workers have followed up the housing schools by holding meetings with county groups on specific housing problems.

Housing is under discussion by a West Virginia group and the Extension specialist assisted by the county agents.



County agent in Albania

Frank Woodward dropped into the office while home in the United States on leave to tell us that working in Albania isn't much different than working in North Carolina. "Why, I am doing extension work all over again," he said. "Some of the customs in Albania are different, and of course the language is different; but the Albanian farmers and the folks up in Mitchell County are essentially the same."

■ Frank Leon Woodward, once Mitchell County agent in North Carolina and now Director of Agricultural Rehabilitation for UNRRA in this tiny Balkan State of Albania, rubbed his hands, a supremely contented man.

He had completed the second of two United Nations jobs essential to setting on its feet this nation, comparable in size and population to the 15 western counties of North Carolina and in topography to parts of the Rocky Mountains but curiously isolated from the rest of the world.

He was standing at a crossroads on the main highway a few miles south of here, and the job he had done was one that he could look at from where he stood. UNRRA had been getting into a jam. This would break the jam. Food, clothing, medical supplies, and farming equipment had been pouring in through the small harbors of the country until warehouses were stuffed to the roof. Shallow draft ships could bring in this kind of material; but shallow draft ships could not carry, and their derricks could not unload the number of heavy motortrucks needed to get the supplies back into the hills where they were needed for the winter.

Woodward had the trucks there in the road, 127 of them; 20 big 6-wheeled 10-tonners; 100 6-wheeled trucks that would carry a load of 8 tons each, 4 big ambulances, 2 tank trucks, and a wrecking car. There they stood, the longest peacetime convoy of motor transportation Albania had ever seen, lined up along the road for more than half a mile where one could see them, and there were more around the bend. Over a hump beyond the curve, Woodward could see more vehicles coming in; mere brown bugs they looked, each in sight for a few seconds only but appearing and disappearing as regu-

larly as the tick of a clock, the way motor convoys should always move and so seldom do.

"Who's hawngry?" Woodward grinned, biting off a corner of North Carolina plug and lighting a two-burner stove on the tailboard of the carry-all which he had brought along with the trucks over the mountains from Yugoslavia where heavier cargoes are unloaded. A can of bacon, a can of beans, another two cans of Vienna sausages spilled into frying pans and sizzled. Into a coffeepot went the usual quantity of brown powder; and the UNRRA people from the Tirana office, down by jeep to see the long-awaited convoy roll in, sniffed the aroma of bacon, coffee, and frosty air. It was cold at the crossroads, and where in America would stand three filling stations stood three bombed-out ruins. Woodward poured the excess bacon grease on the ground, and

an Albanian mongrel with corrugated sides smelled it and began eating the earth to get the fat.

Woodward's other successful and essential job was seeing that Albania had a crop of winter wheat to stave off next year's famine and help get the country "off relief." That, too, was a job whose results he could see; and just before he went to Yugoslavia for the trucks, he saw it. All the way from north to south wherever there are flat spaces among the mountains he saw United Nations winter wheat, no higher than lawn grass now, but strong and healthy and promising a fine harvest if the weather is reasonably cooperative.

Woodward came to Albania with the rest of the United Nations Mission late in August to find the country suffering from ruthless destruction by the retreating enemy and the worst drought in a quarter of a century. Roads were bad. Bridges by the hundred were out. There never had been a railroad, and the country was in a state of mild revolution. But Albania had a cooperative Minister of Agriculture who, Woodward says, "speaks American," and a population as hardy and energetic as any in the world.

The mission had their seed-wheat with them, and what motor trucks the Germans and Italians left rushed it

Former County Agent Frank Woodward, now Director of the Agricultural Division of UNRRA in Albania, explains to Albanians working on one of the State farms the working of a new tractor.



to the 10 prefectures (like county seats) of the country. There the convoys scattered to the 52 subprefectures.

And to the subprefectures came the farmers from the hills and nearby valleys with their donkeys, ponies, and oxcarts ready to distribute the seed to where it could go into the ground.

They build their own homes in Utah

T. SWANN HARDING, Office of Information, USDA

Second in a series of four articles by Mr. Harding based on his recent trip to the West to observe extension activities there.

■ You will not drive far in the inhabited parts of Duchesne and Uintah Counties, southeast of Salt Lake City, without coming upon yards with gravel and sand heaped in them, or lumber piled up to season, or a foundation hole. You may find a family living in what looks like a cow shed, or a lone man in a sheep wagon, or a group in the basement of a house-to-be, which is taking shape overhead.

If you look at all closely, you may also find a vigorous and indefatigable lady poking around the yard—unless she is in the house diagnosing a senile chair and advising on its complete rehabilitation. That would be Mrs. Effie Smith Barrows, in charge of home improvement for the Utah State home demonstration office for more than two decades.

Possibly also a man is present, looking to see whether the underpinnings of a floor in the making will prevent the furniture from precipitating itself into the basement, or examining the installation of a heating plant. That will turn out to be Prof. Joseph Coulim of agricultural engineering at Utah State, now assigned to Extension to help extension workers and farm families thread their way through a remarkable rural building boom.

The country around Vernal and Roosevelt looks bleak enough, but you'd better not say so, for local patriotism runs high here, and every spot where a man lives is the best spot in the world. But somehow the people

It was planted in time. That was the rehabilitation job. The relief job, the feeding and clothing of the population until the wheat crop and other crops come in is also under way; and the convoy of new trucks Woodward brought from over the mountains, barring earthquakes, pestilence, or a new war, assures its success.

have managed to get hold of bricks, cinder blocks, doors and windows and the frames, varicolored gravel and beautiful sand—these last, theirs for the hauling. The lumber comes from the mountains. The people log it themselves, and a custom sawmill turns it into lumber, giving the client back the lumber from half the very logs he brought in. It is well seasoned before using.

Some of the houses are humble; some approach \$10,000 in value but may be built for a cash outlay of \$4,000. For the people build their own homes from their own plans as advised by extension workers. Farmers' Bulletin 1738, *Farmhouse Plans*, proves a boon in many instances.

The housing program was planned before the war but postponed owing to lack of labor and materials. But Extension made a complete survey of intentions to build and now follows through with advice. Meanwhile, many families have brought their materials together, and building is under way in all rural Utah, but especially in the two counties mentioned. Like all of us, these people tend to make mistakes in building unless they are well advised.

For one thing they make simple line drawings without allowance for wall thickness, and that can cause much trouble. They forget the need for storage space, laundry, utility rooms, and closets and pantries. They often make the bathroom or other rooms

inaccessible, inconveniently locate or plan the kitchen, or forget to sprawl the house out where they have plenty of land but build up instead, and fail to put in picture windows overlooking hills ever changing in beauty with the hours and the seasons.

Structural defects can also occur, like the forementioned weak floor supports. Laying heating pipes in the floor can cause much trouble unless the work is done with great skill. Bedrooms may be made too small to hold the requisite furniture, or new gadgets and equipment of little use may be purchased. So Home-planner Barrows and Structural-engineer Coulim have plenty of useful work to do, just so their advice is requested early enough.

It is more difficult to right things after a family has bungled into a lot of snags, but they try. Woman's influence on the architecture is outstandingly beneficial, for women think of the many little conveniences and of uses for otherwise lost space that never occur to men or to professional builders. The home demonstration agents can also advise the housewife about drapes, wall finishes, lighting fixtures, and the mysteries of making a badly wrecked article of furniture stronger and more serviceable than it was when new.

A surprising number of these people learn to build their homes as they go along and make a better job of it than the common run of careless and unskilled rural labor because their heart is in it. Many of them have a few materials, some vague ideas, and a hole in the ground, and need someone to tell them expertly what kind of functional home they require. Exteriors of vertical logs brought to a pleasing finish with linseed oil are common, and they do away with the necessity for 2 by 4's inside.

These people have great pride in their homes as well as strong local patriotism. They are a sturdy, self-reliant lot, and are building into many of these homes of theirs permanent monuments to the patience, diligence, and expert competence of their Extension Service advisers whom they always greet with eager cheerfulness. A visit here gives renewed faith in the extremely far-flung activities and accomplishments of Department personnel.

The advantages of farm life

H. C. SANDERS, Director, Agricultural Extension Service, Louisiana

■ In the past we have given the stay-at-homes on the farm a pretty raw deal. We have made them buy the farm over again in each generation and pay off their brothers and sisters who moved to town. What is worse, we too often have made them feel that they lacked brains, ambition, spirit. We have made them feel that they had chosen a second-class occupation, something that did not challenge the best within them. They cannot make their greatest contribution to the Nation, they will not be able to live up to their responsibility, unless they appreciate themselves; unless they appreciate farming as a way of life and a way of making a living. Farm life does have its advantages. Why not teach our boys and girls the advantages of farm life? Why not give these stay-at-homes at least an equal opportunity with those who go to town?

We do have some things city people do not have: Good food—the best that can be had; a pleasant and healthful place to work; long life; a permanent year-round job; good health—particularly mental health; stable family life; an opportunity to save and to accumulate and acquire property. Are these things worth while?

Better Than Money Can Buy

I said good food—the best that can be had, and I am adding *better than money can buy*. Go down to any grocery store and look over the vegetable counter about the middle of the day. See how it looks after it has been pawed over by a group of bargain-hunting housewives. See that mass of iced, shipped-in, picked-over, culled, wilted, washed, pinched, bruised, and bleeding stuff that was once fresh, and fit for a king.

Green vegetables, milk, lean meat, fruits, eggs, sweet and Irish potatoes—these are some of what the nutritionists call the basic 7, and they are more abundant on the farm than anywhere else. Good food—proper food—is a big factor in good health.

Several thousand men in this country now—men who were prisoners of

the Japs and Germans—can give you a real testimonial on good food and what it means to life.

The farm is a pleasant and healthful place to work. Working in the open air, in the sunshine; plowing the earth which we know to be teeming with life; planting seed that have in them the power of life; cultivating, watching growth—there is the working place of the farmer.

It has always seemed to me that a human being could get a little closer to his Maker in the country than anywhere else in the world. You don't see people climbing to the top of a city skyscraper to watch the sun rise, and you don't see people on Main Street admiring a beautiful moon. On the farm too often I know we have been so engrossed in the struggle to imitate city life that we have failed to appreciate the work of the Master Artist and Artisan. No human hand has yet copied a sunset; and no master musician has yet written a symphony quite so beautiful, harmonious, and appealing as that produced by our native feathered songsters around the average Louisiana farmstead.

Farming is a permanent year-round job. We didn't think much about this until the early thirties, when 13 million wage earners pounded the pavements in every city and town in the Nation, looking for work, standing in the bread lines, on relief, and some, I saw, searching in garbage cans for food. No; that sort of thing doesn't happen on the farm.

Easier on the Nerves

In spite of poorer medical facilities, farm people enjoy better health than most other occupational groups. This is especially true of nervous diseases. The human body, particularly the nervous system, has not become adapted to the speed age. The rush, slam, bang, the din of the traffic, is taking its toll of the human race in untimely deaths from diseases of the heart, nervous break-downs, and insanity.

The rural homes of America are one of the basic hopes for the continuity

of the Nation. The farm family is a unit. Its members have the same interests. In most cases the farm and home are one and inseparable. The family works together, plays together, and worships together. This is not the rule in the city. Dad works at the office and stays at the club for supper. Mom has her interests in bridge, books, or gossip. Sis works for another firm and has her social fences to build and maintain; and if there are other children, as often there are not, they too have their special interests and groups. The house, often not a home as we think of it, is just a place to take a nap and eat a snack on the way from "here to yonder." Too often the stopping place isn't a house, just an apartment—and an efficiency apartment at that—where everything folds up, tucks in, slides under, and dovetails with something else.

Offers a Chance to Own Something

Farm people have a better opportunity to save, accumulate, and acquire property. The instinct to own something—to have something that we can call our own is fundamental. Strange as it may seem, that opportunity is greater in the country than in the city. Not riches. No! If you can become a captain of industry, the country is not the place for you. The city is the land of extremes, great riches, abject poverty. You won't get rich farming, but the chances of saving, of accumulation, are greater than in the city.

We can say to our boys and girls: "If you want to have good food, a pleasant and healthful place to work, to live a long, long life, to have a permanent year-round job; if you want to stay sane and avoid a nervous breakdown; if you want to marry one woman, stay married to her, and rear a family; if you want to work, save, and accumulate some property; if you want your relationships with your fellowmen to be personal, to know the people you see and meet and live with, your opportunity is greater on a farm than in a city."

To those who decide to go to town I wish you would say something like this: "There is opportunity where you are going and great responsibility. Remember that out there many have

forgotten God and have never learned about the brotherhood of man. I have taught you to work, to be honest, to tell the truth, to pay your debts, to be kind to and considerate of others; I have tried to train you for your job. Out there some are doubting that the Golden Rule can be applied to life and that a democracy is sufficiently efficient for modern times. They have forgotten that Thomas Jefferson said in a democracy human rights must take priority over property rights. Also remember that an upright life always has its reward and this form of government of ours with all of its faults has offered to more people an opportunity for full development and

satisfying achievement than any other government that has as yet existed on the earth. Accept and use your privileges and accept and discharge your duties and responsibilities as a Christian citizen."

And to those who stay at home I wish you would say something like this: "Well, Son, we shall be together. In a little while I want you to marry the girl you love and bring her here. Right now I want to make you a partner in this farm. Before too long Mama and I will be getting old. Then we will build an extra room back there, and pretty much retire to it and turn things over to you and your wife. I want you to rear some more boys and

girls—some to go and some to stay. I want you to teach them, as I have tried to teach you, to work and to be honest, thrifty, and clean, but to enjoy life. I want you to teach them about this country, its glorious past and more glorious future; teach them about democracy, which is basically Christian, and point out to them that only in freedom can the human being achieve that stature which Paul had in mind when he said 'Quit you like men'; teach them about God and Christ and abundant living."

If we say and do those things, then I believe that "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

New workers trained

■ For 5 days in May, approximately 32 World War II veterans were briefed on their duties as county and assistant county agents in Arkansas. They toured three of the State's five experiment stations as the secondary phase of an in-service training course designed to prepare new employees to carry out an effective extension program this year. The latest research information available was reviewed under the discussion leadership of college faculty members.

The first phase of the in-service training was a 4-day training school for all new workers, held at Little Rock February 18-21. Through discussions and demonstrations, county and assistant county agents with less than 6 months' service were presented with subject-matter information on agronomy, animal husbandry, soil management, cotton, poultry, forestry, horticulture, farm labor, marketing, and rural housing.

Home demonstration agents and assistants with the same length of extension experience were brought up to date with homemaking information through discussions on food preservation and spoilage, a food demonstration on making of vegetable salads, and subject matter on gardening and family food supply.

In joint sessions the extension agents were instructed in various phases of extension policy and procedure by members of the State staff.

As a further step in assuring the professional efficiency of new employees, the Guide for Arkansas Agricultural Extension Workers, a handbook of policy and procedure, is being revised to be made more complete and to contain a calendar of work activities for new agents.

Of the 47 men hired by the Arkansas Extension Service since June 1, 1945, 39 are veterans. Thirteen who were on military leave are reemployed. They include Floyd Cannaday, Roy Keeling, C. M. Lamkin, Jack Coleman, E. A. Hansen, R. R. Musselman, Howard Kidd, Rudolph Setzler, Jack Carter, Joe Cox, Ewing Kinkead, and Negroes V. O. White and William Barabin.

Of the others granted military leave, Lt. Lowell Goforth was killed; Reece Dampf, Gerald Wright, and Walter Massey accepted other employment; Glynn McBride has not yet reported for work; and Loyd Waters and W. P. Billingsley were rehired but have resigned.

Of the veterans employed who were not with the Extension Service prior to the war, 3 are on the State staff, 7 are county agents, and 16 are assistant county agents. They include: Editor, Glenn C. Rutledge; assistant agricultural engineer, James L. Gattis; farm forester, Robert Nelson; county agents, Paul Inzer, Paul Barlow, John Cravens, Henry Z. Holley, Mack McLendon, Jr., and Negroes

Clemoth Prewitt and Major E. McCoy; and assistant county agents, Mabern F. Hendren, John B. Piper, Odell N. Stivers, Jack T. Hale, Amos H. Underwood, Woodrow M. Wilson, Raydus James, Binom J. Raley, William O. Hazelbaker, Thomas L. Brown, Raymond E. Hunter, Ritchie Smith, Robert W. Anderson, A. Wade Bishop, Runyan Deere, and Billy Dunlop.

4-H members make air tour

Six Chatham County, Ga., 4-H Club members recently had the opportunity of making an air tour of Savannah and nearby Savannah Beach, County Agent A. J. Nitzschke reports.

When one of the Delta Air Lines "Super Deltaliners" stopped at the Savannah airport on its way to Atlanta to be placed in service, representatives of the various youth agencies in Chatham County were invited to make a half-hour flight over Savannah and the Atlantic Ocean at Tybee.

4-H Club members selected by Mr. Nitzschke to make the flight were Billy Benson and Catherine McCreery, president and vice president of the county 4-H council; Billy McKenzie, national winner in the farm safety contest; and Edward Brinson, Hubert Ritch, and Billy Morris of the Bethesda Orphanage 4-H Club.

Veterans' wives study homemaking

JOYCE REEVE, Albany County Home Demonstration Agent
and

JANE BEMIS, Teacher Trainer University of Wyoming

■ Wives of veterans at the University of Wyoming crowded home-economics classrooms last quarter to attend what they felt were much-needed courses in homemaking.

The course was initiated by seniors in home economics who wanted to get practical experience in adult education. It was designed to meet the needs of veterans' wives who have to struggle to make livable small apartments, trailer houses, and tiny prefabricated homes. At each meeting the wives decided what instruction they most needed and selected a subject for the next meeting.

Greatest interest was shown in family meals and home management, but more than one-third of the women asked for classes dealing with child development. Subjects used in class discussion and for demonstration included meat buying, high-altitude cookery, use of sugar savers and alternates, preparation of pie crust, making curtains and draperies, and making slip covers.

After the women who attended the organization meeting found that these classes would meet the problems confronting them every day, they showed so much interest that twice as many class meetings as were originally intended had to be scheduled. Most of the meetings were held at night so that the veterans, while they were preparing their own lessons, could take care of the children.

Laboratory lessons, demonstrations, discussions, slides, and films were used so that the young wives could more clearly understand systems by which their homemaking could be made easier. Since many were interested in improving their buying habits and in stretching the family income, the *Consumer Speaks* materials were used.

Afternoon conference hours were arranged for girls who asked for extra help. Students also arranged hours in the university high-school sewing

room when they could assist the veterans' wives in clothing construction.

All the young homemakers reached during the time the class was held found they could actually put the information into practice. Many have asked for special assistance, for they know now where they can get help when they need it.

During the entire winter quarter, meetings were scheduled to include streamlined meals, making pastries, art in the home, purchase and preparation of meat, selection and construction of children's clothes, furnishing and equipping the small apartment (including making draperies and storing materials), tailor tips for adults' clothes, stretching the family dollar, child care and training, and making partial slip covers.

When the senior girls and their instructor found that interest was virtually snowballing, they asked other home economists to give demonstrations and lead discussions. Three meetings were conducted by the county home demonstration agent. The lesson dealing with construction of children's clothing was taught by Miss Helen Roberts of the university clothing and textiles department. Reference materials and teaching aids were contributed by specialists at the agricultural extension service.

During the organization period, the senior girls in the methods class invited a few representative women from the community to meet with them as an adult homemaking council. Together they considered the problems of the veterans' wives and outlined a possible course of study. The county home demonstration agent also cooperated in planning and conducting classes.

An announcement at the veteran's auxiliary meeting, posters at the trailer village, and newspaper articles informed the prospective class members of the home-economics course,



A stream-line meal is prepared under the direction of the home demonstration agent.

which was designed especially for them.

Sixty young homemakers were reached with an average attendance of 20.

Sponsored dental clinics

Better health for the grade school boys and girls of Harrison County, Mo., has been found through a series of dental clinics reported by Miss Charlotte Lagerstrom, home demonstration agent. The movement was planned and sponsored by the county council of home-economics extension clubs.

Of the 1,559 students examined, only 36 percent had no tooth cavities or other dental defects. All defects of the other 64 percent were marked on dental charts and given to the children to take home to their parents. Newspapers followed up with educational articles and news of the campaign.

A check-up of dentists' records reveals that many of the children have taken their charts to family dentists and are having their teeth cared for. They are also using better home care of the teeth and eating better balanced food.

In the clinics, the Extension Club Council had the assistance of the county superintendent of schools, grade-school teachers, and five dentists who gave entire days of their time to the series. They visited every town in the county, checking the teeth of all grade children and of high-school students as well. Arrangements were made for rural school children to attend the clinic in the town nearest their own district.—*Cleta Null, home demonstration leader for northwest Missouri, and Mrs. Rose S. Florea, assistant State extension editor.*

Building future county programs

C. G. BRADT, Extension Animal Husbandman, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

■ When county project committees sit down to discuss and draw up the county programs for next year and the years following, how shall they proceed? They have a great responsibility. Not only are these committees looked upon as the guiding bodies for the county's agricultural thought, but they are entrusted with the task of making constructive suggestions which will lead to the wise expenditures of county extension funds.

The county committee, whether it is the livestock and dairy committee, the fruit committee, the potato committee, or the poultry committee, should not take its job lightly. It should have its objectives firmly in mind at the outset. It should be provided with all the available facts concerning farming trends, economic and social, business trends, and Government programs, which may or may not be favorable.

Nation-wide factors as well as local factors should be taken into account. Local information alone will not suffice. The forces that govern agriculture today are often worldwide. Our committees must extend their thinking beyond the bounds of their own farm businesses if the right kind of programs with far-reaching results are to be built.

The problem of proper interpretation of the facts, assuming they are derived from reliable sources, is the biggest task the committee will encounter.

Unbiased data are essential to a successful project committee meeting. Survey material is useful. Census figures are valuable. But these figures and the trends they may portray cannot be accepted without careful thinking. Just because the trend in the past has been upward or downward is no guarantee that it will continue in that direction indefinitely.

The committee must guard against drawing hasty conclusions that an enterprise is "on its way out" or is due for a period of greater expansion. The forward-thinking committee will attempt to determine when a change may take place and make its program accordingly. But a wise committee

will avoid forecasting which may lead to embarrassment later.

Another point which I wish to raise is, "Should the program be constructed to flow with the tide, or should a forward-looking program attempt to change the course of the stream?"

To illustrate, we have seen the automobile traffic death toll mounting year after year, war years excepted. Should we take for granted that this trend in deaths will continue upward and do nothing about it? Class I and class II lands (poorer classes) we may say are doomed for abandonment or must be converted to forest and recreational use. Sheep, we might conclude from the census figures of the past 50 years for dairy regions, will soon be seen only in New York zoos. Labor has been leaving the farm. Will this continue?

The question is, should committees hastily accept apparent conclusions without a study of the factors responsible for these trends? A solution of the problem may be found if an effort is made to turn the tide. To say the

trend is upward or downward and stop there is another way of merely evading a problem which may be affecting the lives of many farm families. If social or economic benefits can be made to accrue to those individuals most affected, then our committees should attempt to draft programs which will retard these adverse trends or change their direction. If careful study proves it impossible to alter these courses, then the program should be made to guide the county's agriculture in the light of the conditions that seem inevitable. Perhaps the present direction of some trends ought to be hastened in the best interests of all concerned. That needs thought, too.

In the last analysis, it is the job of those county project committees to construct programs based upon the economic and social needs of farm people. County agents and extension specialists can offer guidance and leadership and supply data, but they should not endeavor to think for the committee.

Most county committees can be relied upon to do their own thinking. Given the facts, our committee's judgment is usually sound. That has been my experience in working with farmers in program building.

Egg facts for the consumer

■ The Wisconsin quality egg program has some new slants that are proving successful. In addition to the usual holding of egg-grading schools on farms and work with homemakers and producers, it was decided to bring in the consumer. Though it is customary to think of the out-of-State markets first, a number of relatively large cities did offer opportunity. To reach these consumers, a combination of "A Good Egg" show and a cooking school was planned for several counties.

The show included panels and other materials giving an explanation of why some eggs have brown shells and some white; why a laying flock must be confined; how vitamins in feed are converted or carried over into eggs; and such factors in quality as collecting, wire baskets, cooling, marketing, buying on grade, selling on grade, and refrigeration in the home.

The Federal Grading Service and

the egg dealers cooperated in making an exhibit showing each of the grades of eggs under the candle and then packs of each in dozen cartons and in 30-dozen case lots. There was also a display of dressed poultry by grades. An egg show included one class for adults and one for students.

The cooking school was held in the afternoon with door prizes of such donated articles as roast turkey and angel-food cake. Admission was by ticket only from local stores, butchers, or others who supplied the consumer with eggs. One of the striking things about the venture was the cooperation of industry. For example, in one instance the power company ran a special cable to install an electric range. The Association of Commerce in each city sponsored and cooperated with the activity. It usually turned into a civic enterprise. Every store carried cards naming the day.—J. B. Hayes, extension poultryman, Wisconsin.



Flashes

FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Increased Milk Production Linked With Hybrid Vigor

■ Cross-bred cows are producing more milk than their dams in a cross-breeding experiment with four dairy breeds at the Research Center, Beltsville, Md.

And three-bred heifers are exceeding their two-breed dams in milk production. This experiment, being carried on by the Bureau of Dairy Industry, shows a striking characteristic of the cross-bred animals—their persistency of milk production throughout the lactation period. The monthly butterfat production of many of these cows varies less than 10 pounds in the high and low months.

The experiment, begun in 1939, was designed to find out whether hybrid vigor and increased milk production would result from crossing breeds of dairy cattle. Thirty-two females, representing various combinations of two breeds, have completed production records. They averaged 12,842 pounds of milk and 592 pounds of butterfat a year; more in most cases than their dams produced. Some increase was to be expected as a result of the influence of the proved sires, but the actual increase was approximately 20 percent more than the expected increase. Hybrid vigor probably is responsible.

The experiment plan calls for continuous introduction of new genes through the use of proved sires of different breeds. The breeds used are Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, and Red Dane. Two-breed females—Holstein-Jersey or Red Dane-Holstein, for example—are mated to a sire of a third breed. Only a few matings between the crossbred animals have been made so far in this study.

Application to farm or commercial dairy herds may be expected to produce similar results if certain conditions are fulfilled. The stock used must be of high quality, and the sires

must have been proved for transmission of milk-producing ability.

A New Growth Factor in Poultry Feeding

■ Workers in poultry nutrition research have found that 5 to 8 percent of dried cow manure added to chick diets containing no animal protein has a growth-promoting effect equal to that of 3 percent of fish meal. When the manure was added to more complete diets the effect was not evident. Investigations of the nutritional value of cow manure for chickens were begun following the discovery that material from the rumen, or first stomach, of the cow has a higher vitamin content than the feed given the animal. Bacteria in the digestive tract apparently are able to synthesize thiamine, riboflavin, and other vitamins from feed that does not contain these factors as such. Poultry nutritionists of the Bureau of Animal Industry who made the experiments with chickens concluded, however, that the factor in cow manure that promotes growth is neither a protein nor any of the known vitamins. Concentrates of the unknown growth-promoting factor have been prepared from cow manure. The most potent of these thus far obtained had a significant effect on growth of chicks when fed as 0.004 percent of the diet.

The investigators found that dried manure had a marked beneficial effect on growth of chicks when added to a diet deficient in riboflavin. It also stimulated comb growth in both male and female chickens. Manure fed to laying hens increases hatchability, but it should first be heated to about 175° F. to destroy a factor that appears to reduce egg production. A small percentage of dried manure in the feed does not impart any flavor or odor to the flesh of poultry.

Revolution in Sugar-Beet Growing

■ Since 1941, when a method was developed to increase the proportion of single seedlings in stands of sugar beets, mechanization of sugar-beet production has advanced by leaps and bounds. Possibly from 80 to 90 percent of the sugar beets to be grown on a million acres in the United States in 1946 will be planted with single-seed planters. This new planting method means a large saving in the labor of thinning and makes mechanical thinning possible.

Use of labor-saving machinery for planting and thinning has been stimulated by the discovery of a way to separate sugar-beet seed balls into single seeds. Planting the whole seed balls, as was formerly the practice, produced clumps of plants that had to be thinned by hand—a tedious and expensive process. A method of shearing the seed balls into segments containing a single seed was developed in 1941 at the California Agricultural Experiment Station. When the segmented seed is planted, the rows have a high percentage of single plants. Engineers of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, who were already experimenting with methods of planting to obtain stands of single plants, developed several types of single-seed planters and adapted old-style plate-type planters to the new method.

Rows of single sugar-beet seedlings can also be thinned by machinery. Yields from mechanical and from hand thinning are about equal, but labor costs are reduced \$5 to \$10 an acre by the use of the machines. Single-seed planting followed by hand thinning saves about half that much.

Recognition for Scientific Achievement

■ An award for his scientific contributions toward the control of insects responsible for spreading typhus was presented to Edward F. Knipling of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine on May 13. The presentation was made by Secretary Anderson, and Brig. Gen. S. Bayne-Jones, Director of the Typhus Commission, read the citation.

As senior entomologist in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Orlando, Fla., during the war, Mr. Knipling helped to develop methods for control

of insects of most concern to the military forces. Through his knowledge of medical entomology, Mr. Knipling and his associates developed and adapted for military application practically all insecticides and repellents used by the armed forces at home and abroad. Among these products were DDT compounds that gave almost complete protection against transmission of typhus by the body louse, and dimethyl phthalate for the control of scrub typhus.

"These studies, enlarging scientific knowledge, led to the effective use of

DDT in the control of epidemic typhus fever," the citation read in part. "Mr. Knipling's contributions served as a basis for preventive measures which were highly effective in protecting troops from disease and in controlling epidemics among civilian populations."

The United States of America Typhus Commission Medal was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The Commission serves with the Army of the United States and comprises representatives of the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service.

Rural policy considered

■ Policies to guide both public and private agencies in improving rural life were considered by the New York State Rural Policy Committee in its first meeting at Cornell University. The committee is composed of 70 farm men and women who are recognized leaders in their communities and counties.

In their studies they were helped by many members of the university faculty and the State extension staff, and had the benefit of the advice of several prominent representatives of State and Federal agencies, the churches, schools, banks, commercial canners, and the agricultural press. At an early date their findings will be printed as a committee report.

Working through 10 subcommittees to study that number of basic public programs as they affect rural interests

particularly, the State committee agreed upon a large number of recommendations that will be included in the printed report. In the meantime, some of the most pressing matters have been sent to all the counties for consideration by the county rural policy committees.

A few of the questions suggested for immediate consideration by county committees are—

How can the efficiency of farm labor be increased in order to compete with the ever-increasing output per man-hour of labor and consequent high wages in city industries?

How can satisfactory arrangements be made for adjusting milk prices with changing conditions and with seasonal differences in supply and demand?

Should the programs of farm organizations and agencies be directed

more toward intensive use of land in the higher land classes or toward bringing back into production land not now being actively operated?

How can medical, hospital, and health services be made available to rural people as adequately as to city people?

Similarly pressing questions are raised in relation to the conservation of natural resources, prices, rural housing, education, problems of the family and community, rural government and public services, zoning in rural and suburban areas, extension programs in the arts, and recreation for both rural youth and adults.

In the words of L. R. Simons, State Director of Extension, "this committee can help rural communities mature all of these interests in constructive long-term planning activities."

A successful refresher course

A 4-day refresher course in animal industry for Iowa county agents and their assistants was enthusiastically received by about 80 attending. The first day was especially for men who had just been appointed or who had been away on military leave.

The course was planned by a joint committee of county agents and representatives of the animal-industry groups. Each agent was asked to suggest problems or subjects on which he would like more information and also give his preference in the manner of conducting the course.

On the campus, heads of departments and members of their staffs took an active part in the course. It was a real demonstration of cooperation between subject-matter groups. The length of time seemed to be just about right for such a refresher course. All sessions started on time, and the schedule was closely followed. The panel discussion worked out successfully in presenting the material.

Continuous demonstration

As a grand finale to National 4-H Club Week in Denver, a demonstration program was given on a Saturday from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. in a window of one of the large department stores in downtown Denver.

It was estimated that 2,250 people saw the demonstrations.





Have you read

MANAGING A FARM. *Sherman E. Johnson and Associates.* 365 pp. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., New York, N. Y.

■ Managing a Farm was originally written by Dr. Sherman E. Johnson and his associates in the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the Armed Forces Institute. However, two new chapters have been added, and minor revisions have been made in the others.

Although the practical aspects of managing the individual farm are emphasized, the first three chapters are devoted to taking a broad look at the varied character of agriculture in the United States. In contrast with many farm management books, a national perspective is maintained throughout with the examples, illustrations, and concrete data covering all agricultural regions.

The management problems of the commercial farmer naturally receive major attention in this book, but the peculiar problems of the part-time farmer are treated in some detail. Furthermore, the authors do not assume that the farmer already has a going concern so they devote one chapter to "deciding on size of the farm" and another to "getting started in farming."

The central portion of the book deals with the usual problems of farm layout, farm equipment, the farm-work program, farm planning, and farm records. In fact, more than one-fourth of the book is devoted to the two subjects of farm planning and farm records.

In a chapter near the close, consideration is given to the often-overlooked aspects of modern farm life which the authors have entitled "working with others on management problems." Discussions are centered on the importance of working with neighbors, farm organizations, and governmental agencies. The final chapter emphasizes the contribution of the farm home and family to successful management, as well as the

necessity of being able to adjust the business to changing economic conditions.

It should be pointed out that the book treats only briefly certain subjects that are part of managing a farm. These include farm credit, farm leases, and the legal and contractual aspects of farming. Also as a college text the economic principles and concepts relating to farm management would need to be developed largely from supplementary reading. Managing a Farm definitely reaches its avowed objective of being a practical book on farm management and as such should find a wide use on the farm, in the offices of those working with farm people, and in the classroom.—*Leonard F. Miller, Extension Specialist in Farm Management, U. S. D. A.*

THE ART OF PLAIN TALK. *Rudolf Flesch.* Harper & Bros., New York. 1946. 210 pp.

TO GOVERNMENT WRITERS: HOW DOES YOUR WRITING READ. Procedures and Records Committee, Council of Personnel Administration, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. 12 pp. (For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., price 5 cents.)

■ The best way to tell whether a piece of writing is doing its job well is to check with the audience. In the case of Extension Service writing this would usually mean checking its impact on farm people. Can they read it easily? Can they understand it? Are they moved to do what the writing advises?

Interviews in the field can give us good answers to these questions. Usually, though, it isn't practical to check our writing in the field. Often this wouldn't be possible anyway until after the material is published in final form. So there's a need for some way to get from the written material itself an indication of how easy or hard it

is to read. Researchers have worked out several methods for doing this. The Flesch method, or formula, is one of the most recent and practical. Directions for using this method are given in both Dr. Flesch's new book and in the Civil Service pamphlet.

The Art of Plain Talk meets a need for a generally available statement by Dr. Flesch of the formula and its application. The Civil Service pamphlet makes an excellent presentation of this information in a nutshell. However, a handy list of common affixes and multiplication tables for use with the formula are omitted from this bulletin. (A footnote states that these are available from the Reference Section, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.) While this pamphlet was in preparation, it served as the basis for the 1945 SCS mimeograph, To Writers of the Soil Conservation Service: How Does Your Writing Read? This mimeograph included the list of affixes and the multiplication table, as well as directions for using the formula.

Let's recognize right now that much written material—including Extension Service material—is too hard to read and understand. The question immediately arises: How can we write readably? That's a \$64 question—and it's quite different from the question we've just been considering: How can we determine the readability of something already written?

In his new book, Dr. Flesch offers suggestions and rules for writing readably. His "recipe for simplicity" is based on his formula. It is: "Talk about people in short sentences with many root words." He offers a number of other rules. Most of them have a familiar ring. But that's all right; good advice can stand being repeated.

Several "before" and "after" examples of material simplified by Dr. Flesch's methods are given. Some of them seem more successful than others. But as you read the book, you can judge them for yourself. In fact, your reading of the whole book should be careful and critical. After all, here is the proof of the pudding.

Dr. Flesch describes the book as a collection of formulas or recipes for use in working out an exact style for whatever audience you wish to reach. Don't expect a miracle, however. Even if you conclude that this book is

the last word in writing recipes, it takes more than recipes to produce effective writing.

Dr. Flesch deserves credit for his convincing plea for more readable

writing. Though some of his advice may be open to question, much of it is sound and helpful.—*H. P. Mileham, Publications Specialist, Federal Extension Service.*

Undergraduate training inaugurated

■ As a step forward in the better preparation of students for future careers in extension service work, Montana State College this spring inaugurated its undergraduate course in extension with 15 junior agricultural and home economics students enrolled in the introductory course.

At the conclusion of the introductory course a limited number of carefully selected students from among the group will do field work for the Montana Extension Service this summer to obtain practical on-the-job training under the supervision of agricultural and home demonstration agents.

Next spring the senior course in extension will begin with students who have completed the junior course enrolled. The senior course will have one section devoted to extension home economics work and the other given over to extension agricultural work.

The course at Montana State College is actually the realization of an idea conceived by Alpha Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi. The fraternity began work on the proposed course a little more than a year ago. A committee made a careful study of the subjects it believed should be included in such a course, and the completed plan was then submitted to the faculty at the college.

The course is being given under the supervision of T. B. Holker, acting county agent leader, and former members of the extension staff do the instruction work. Also assisting with the home economics phases of the course is Martha L. Hensley, former extension clothing specialist who is now a member of the home economics faculty at the college.

Those who have been planning the course believe that it will serve two very valuable purposes. First, it will give students who eventually go into

extension as a career a much broader and more thorough background of extension. Second, it will also give the extension supervisory staff an excellent opportunity to size up the students as potential extension workers. And then, too, by giving students an understanding of extension it may serve to head off those who might otherwise have begun extension work without knowing more about it and then find they do not like it.

4-H Teen Tour

■ From the island of Martha's Vineyard by boat and train, from the far-away hills of the Berkshires, up and down and across the State of Massachusetts came more than 300 high school 4-H girls, representing every county of the State, to Boston on April 27. They were pioneering in the first 4-H Teen Tour ever held in the State. Their goals were "to do" Boston up brown, make new acquaintances with older 4-H girls from all over the State and gain experience in traveling. They were identified by a small white ribbon pinned on each shoulder, bearing the words in green, "4-H Teen Tour."

The event started for some of them from far-away counties the night before with the added experience of staying in hotels. One group slept at the 4-H Clubhouse on the State college campus on Friday night and at a hotel in Boston on Saturday night.

The morning program started with an assembly at Simmons College. This was also open-house day for the college, which gave the girls an opportunity to tour some of the classrooms. Dr. Elda Robb, director of home economics at Simmons and a former extension worker in Michigan, greeted the delegation.

Tours were arranged at the Museum of Fine Arts, where the girls saw the

early American exhibit of furniture and Paul Revere silver. They visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, saw the famous Ware collection of glass flowers at the Harvard University Museum and the Mapparium in the Christian Science Publishing House. Spare time was spent visiting stores and historic spots, of which there are many in Boston.

Alma Becker, a senior in high school and in her eighth year of 4-H Club work, presided over the luncheon program, which was held at one of Boston's oldest restaurants. Another 4-H girl led the singing. The high light of this program included a talk by Mary Carr Baker on "Are you in trim for tomorrow?" Mrs. Baker is director of health education for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is well known in the State for her talks to high school youth. A generous-hearted friend of young people supplied a yellow jonquil for each girl at the tables.

Girls took part in three well-known radio programs during the day, and one station made a recording of several representative members.

It was the 4-H high school girls' own tour. They paid their own transportation, luncheon tickets, presided at the meetings, led the singing, made the place cards for the head table, and took part in radio programs. Only enough adults to chaperon the girls were encouraged to attend the event.

The girls were paid an excellent compliment by the manager of the restaurant. He commented that in all the years he had served groups, whether adult or young people, the 4-H Teen Tour delegation was the finest he had served.—*Tena Bishop, Leader, Girls' 4-H Clubs, Massachusetts.*

A 4-H FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT CLUB recently organized in Dauphin County, Pa., is starting in with the spring clean-up and following with repairs of fences, buildings, and driveways. Their 3-year program includes ornamental plantings, painting, and some new construction. Modern plumbing and such related activities as erosion control will be included. The 21 members are beginning their work with enthusiasm and the staunch support of their parents.

Among Ourselves



Dr. Ruby Green Smith (left) shows her special citation to Dean Sarah G. Blanding (right), formerly of the College of Home Economics.

■ DR. RUBY GREEN SMITH, pioneer in cooperative extension work in New York State, received a special citation from Director M. L. Wilson at a tea given in her honor upon the occasion of her retirement after 28 years of service.

The presentation was made by H. E. Babcock, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, in the presence of the New York Extension staff, members of the College of Home Economics, and leading farm women. The citation reads in part:

"Through two world-wide wars and a period of grave national economic crisis, she has contributed of her professional talents toward inspiring and encouraging great numbers of homemakers to hold fast to the ideals of family and home.

"Her contribution to the field of adult education in home economics will serve as a permanent landmark in strengthening the institution of the rural family, which is the core of rural democracy and society organized for the advancement of human principles."

Mrs. Smith first entered extension work in 1918, when she established local organizations to carry forward the

program of wheatless days, sugar rationing, and other plans for food conservation during the First World War. After the war these groups became county Home Bureau units.

Dr. Smith is widely known as the author of the Home Bureau Creed, of which 350,000 copies have been distributed. The creed reads:

"To maintain the highest ideals of home life; to count children the most important of crops; to so mother them that their bodies may be sound, their minds clear, their spirits happy, and their characters generous:

"To place service above comfort; to let loyalty to high purposes silence discordant notes; to let neighborliness supplant hatreds, to be discouraged never:

"To lose self in generous enthusiasms; to extend to the less fortunate a helping hand; to believe one's community may become the best of communities; and to cooperate with others for the common ends of a more abundant home and community life:

"This is the offer of the Home Bureau to the homemaker of today."

When asked what she thought her most important contribution to Extension had been, Dr. Smith replied: "The introduction of community projects. Community life is only a larger housekeeping than that of the home. It is the homemaker's responsibility to take part in the life of her neighborhood, her county, her State, the Nation, and now the United Nations. With these the modern home has relationships unlike the isolated castle of the Middle Ages."

For the last year Dr. Smith has been released from active duty to write a history of the New York Extension Service in agriculture and home economics, which will be published soon.

■ J. M. ELEAZER, veteran county agent of Sumter County, S. C., was presented with a silver service recently at a large community banquet in Sumter. He was leaving the county to become information specialist for

the South Carolina Extension Service with headquarters at Clemson.

Mr. Eleazer has served as county agent since September 1917. The past 23 years of that time were spent in Sumter County, where he has done outstanding work with livestock and in the general advancement of agriculture.

Part of his time for the past few years has been given to news work over the State. He has developed a widely published agricultural column entitled "Seen Along the Roadside."

■ MARION B. NOLAND began work as dairy specialist of the Wyoming Extension Service on March 20. This position is being filled for the first time in 26 years.

Noland, a veteran of World War II, was graduated from the Kansas State College in 1935. He entered the Kansas Extension Service in 1935 and worked at Manhattan as county agent for 3 years. In 1938 he became blockman for the International Harvester Company.

He went into the Army in 1940 as a second lieutenant and served in the South Pacific theater. Discharged early this year, Noland had the rank of lieutenant colonel.

■ WILMA C. BEYER, formerly assistant State 4-H leader in West Virginia, has gone to the New York Extension Service as 4-H child development and family relationships specialist.

■ FLORENCE E. HOWARD, formerly club agent in Mineral County, West Virginia, is now assistant State club leader in that State.

■ A BRITISH EXTENSION SERVICE, similar to Cooperative Extension Work in the United States, will be formally established October 1, 1946.

■ 2ND LT. HIRAM SMITH, formerly county agent in Kemper County, Miss., left the Extension Service, September 8, 1943, to enter the Air Forces of the United States. On

March 2, 1945, as navigator of a B-25 (Mitchell) bomber, he participated in a strafing mission to Formosa. According to letters received by Mrs. Rose A. Smith, of Purvis, Miss., the lieutenant's wife, from friends who flew in other ships of his squadron on the same mission, an engine was shot out over the target. The plane immediately climbed to a high altitude—for safety reasons when there is only one engine—and started to throw out everything to make the ship lighter; but it wouldn't make it, so they decided to ditch—land in water and use a life raft until found and rescued. The last anyone heard from them they were flying at 1,000 feet preparing to ditch. On March 7, 1945, Lieutenant Smith's commanding officer wrote as follows to Mrs. Smith:

"On March 2, 1945, Smith went on a mission against enemy installations at Toyohara airdrome, Formosa. His plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire over the target area, apparently in one of the engines, for it was unable to regain the formation and was seen to be losing altitude. His plane was kept in sight for about 48 minutes after it left the target until it finally dropped so far behind the formation that it was lost to view. When last seen it was still on its course but losing altitude rapidly. It can only be hoped that the pilot was able to ditch the aircraft successfully in the sea and that the crew escaped into life rafts. Search missions have been carried out daily for Hiram and his crew, but to date no survivors have been located."

No further official word has been received.

■ **DIRECTOR M. L. WILSON**, on May 18, received the National Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education. This award has been made annually since 1940 for outstanding service and contribution in the field of education and is sponsored by the Adult Students' Council. In accepting the award, Director Wilson said:

"It is not easy at this moment to put into words the gratitude that is in my heart. I thank the Association of Adult Elementary Schools and the Board of Education of the City of New York for the honor you have bestowed on me. I also want to express my appreciation to the thousands of fellow extension workers throughout the



United States. I sense that today you are honoring them as well as me personally. I shall, in fact, always regard this beautiful medallion as a symbol of recognition of the excellent work done by the many fine men and women of the Nation who have made extension teaching their life's career. They have contributed much toward making the Cooperative Extension Service an instrument of progress, enlightenment, and achievement. They have pursued with steadfastness of purpose the sound principles embodied in helping people to learn by doing, irrespective of age. As a token of their leadership in adult education, as well as with deep appreciation on my own part, I accept the 1946 Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education."

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson sent the following letter to Perry L. Schneider of the New York Board of Education:

"Today, as we tighten our belts to help feed starving millions abroad, we recognize that one of the greatest assets we have is the production know-how of our farmers. United States farmers use a great deal of science in practical farm operations, largely because of the long history of adult education carried on through the Agricultural Extension Service in every State and agricultural county of the Nation.

"I am, therefore, delighted to hear that the Adult Elementary Division of the Board of Education of the City of New York is honoring Director M. L. Wilson, of the Cooperative Extension Service, in presenting to him the National Medallion for Distinguished Service in Adult Education for 1946.

M. L. Wilson has been a consistent advocate of adult education as the kind of education that should continue throughout life. He is a man of real intellectual stature and of implicit faith in education as the bulwark of democracy in an age when science plays so dominant a part in the progress of mankind.

"M. L. Wilson is, in every sense of the word, the type of American our Nation can be proud of on the eve of I Am An American Day, a day dedicated to calling our attention both to the privileges and to the responsibilities involved in being an American citizen."

The award was given at a luncheon at Hotel Commodore, New York City, when about 1,000 new citizens, students in New York City citizenship classes celebrated "I Am An American Day."

Trees and shrubs add charm

Ashley County, Ark., home demonstration club women made much progress last summer with a home-grounds landscaping project. They began it in February when 21 women representing 6 clubs gathered at a home in the Promised Land neighborhood for a demonstration and leader training meeting. They watched Earl J. Allen, extension horticulturist, show the proper method of setting out a tree and of pruning shrubs and roses. They also discussed landscaping problems.

When they went home from the demonstration, they began spreading the information they had learned, reports Josie Benton, home demonstration agent. Four of the leaders gave demonstrations for their clubs on setting out trees, and eight other women showed friends or neighbors how to set out a tree the right way. Four women demonstrated to their local club members how to prune shrubs, and three more, the way to prune roses. Seven told Miss Benton they had taught someone else, though not necessarily a club member, how to prune shrubs and roses.

Adding up the actual landscaping results of the first demonstration, the home demonstration agent reports 26 trees set out and 209 shrubs and 47 roses pruned.

The Once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

THE SIXTEENTH NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP brought 81 State 4-H Club leaders and assistants to Washington June 11-19. They met for daily conferences on 4-H problems and programs. The 10 Guideposts for 4-H Programs came in for discussion, with the 4-H delegates discussing one of the points each day and serving on a committee which on the last day presented suggestions for implementing their point in the 4-H program. The last day's conference of leaders and delegates when the reports were given was one of the high points of the conference.

"FOR MY WORLD" was the addition to the 4-H pledge suggested by the young campers considering the guidepost, "Serving as citizens in maintaining world peace." The 4-H Club boys from California put this committee report across in fine shape, finishing up with the pledge "for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

THE 10 GUIDEPOSTS were being used in various ways as reported by the leaders. Camps and group meetings often take just one of the points as a theme for discussion. Oklahoma last year used Health as the 4-H theme for the year and this year is featuring production to feed a hungry world.

The 4-H famine relief program was reported as having attained considerable proportion. Generally the clubs are giving locally either money or produce. Iowa raised \$2,000 from the State 4-H members for famine relief. New York has found a great deal of interest in the idea of clubs adopting families in Europe.

Eighteen leaders were honored in a special ceremony for 25 years of service to 4-H. They were: A. G. Kettunen, State Club leader, Michigan; A. J. Kittleson, State Club leader, Minnesota; L. F. Kinney, Jr., State Club agent, Rhode Island; Frank Spurrier, State Club leader, California; Elsie Trabue, assistant State Club leader, Connecticut; C. B. Wadleigh, State Club leader, New Hampshire; Allegra

E. Wilkins, assistant State Club leader, Nebraska; Allen Baker, State Club leader, Pennsylvania; R. S. Clough, State Club leader, Missouri; Gordon Elcan, State Club agent, Virginia; Dorothy Emerson, State girls' Club agent, Maryland; Marion Forbes, assistant State Club leader, Massachusetts; L. I. Frisbie, State Club leader, Nebraska; R. H. Giberson, State Club agent, Minnesota; Jessie Greene, assistant State Club leader, Nebraska; Mrs. Harriet F. Johnson, State Club leader, Rock Hill, S. C.; H. M. Jones, State Club leader, Massachusetts.

CITATIONS AND MEDALLIONS for distinguished service to 4-H Club work were also presented to the following: U. S. Marine Corps Capt. Taylor Branson, Washington, D. C.; Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas; Maynard H. Coe, Chicago, Ill.; William H. Danforth, St. Louis, Mo.; Theodore A. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.; George E. Farrell, Washington, D. C.; Edwin Franko Goldman, New York, N. Y.; B. H. Heide, Chicago, Ill.; Charles L. Horn, Minneapolis, Minn.; Miss Mary E. Murphy, Chicago, Ill.; U. S. Marine Corps Capt. William F.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Santelmann, Arlington, Va.; and Clyde W. Warburton, Washington, D. C.

DR. C. B. SMITH, whose article on 4-H education for Great Living appears on the first page of this issue, was given a special plaque honoring his great contribution to the development of 4-H Clubs during the past 45 years. He also received a special award for distinguished service from the Washington, D. C., Club of the Michigan State College Alumni Association.

AMERICAN REPRESENTATION at the executive committee meeting of the Associated Countrywomen of the World, meeting in London on June 26 and 27, was Mrs. Helendean Doderidge, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Spencer Ewing, of Bloomington, Ill., chairman of the American branch. They formulated plans for the triennial meeting which it is hoped can be held next year and spent a day considering world food problems. Mrs. Ewing extended the invitation to meet in this country. A further report on this meeting will be carried in an early issue.

ON HER WAY TO DENMARK, Mrs. Louise S. Jessen, extension editor for Hawaii, stopped in Washington to see the extension folks and find out more about the U. S. Department of Agriculture Information Service. She will spend several months in Denmark and promises to bring back a report for REVIEW readers.

EIGHT SOUTHEASTERN STATES AND CHINA were represented at the Rural Handicraft Short Course which was held for extension workers at the Penland School of Handicrafts, Penland, N. C., from May 13 to June 1. More than 300 articles were made by the 22 students attending. Miss Lucy Morgan, director of the school, conducted the course and was assisted by Miss Reba Adams, extension specialist in home industries of the Federal Extension Service, and instructors from New York, Connecticut, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Courses included hand weaving, chair seating, metalwork, pottery and clay modeling, furniture upholstery, furniture refinishing, rug making, leatherwork, basketry, lamp shade making, and similar crafts.